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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Jean-Luc CHAMBRIN et al.  
Serial Number : To Be Determined  
Filed : Herewith  
For : METHOD FOR LIMITING THE MAINTENANCE  
LOADS APPLIED TO A FUEL ASSEMBLY OF A  
NUCLEAR REACTOR AND FUEL ASSEMBLY  
Art Unit : To Be Determined  
Examiner : To Be Determined

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
37 C.F.R. §1.125 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION STATEMENT**

SIR:

Please amend the above-identified application before examination, as set forth below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.